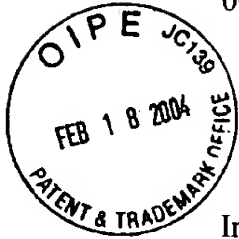


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PATENT APPLICATION

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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In re Application of:

MITSURU YAMAMOTO

Application No.: 09/961,424

Filed: September 25, 2001

For: MULTIMEDIA ON-DEMAND
SYSTEM, INFORMATION
TRANSMISSION METHOD,
AND STORAGE MEDIUM

Examiner: A. Faile

Group Art Unit: 2611

February 17, 2004

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, Applicant respectfully directs the Examiner's attention to the documents listed below and on the enclosed Form PTO-1449. Copies of the documents listed are also enclosed.


U.S. Patent No. 4,949,248
U.S. Patent No. 4,974,254
Europe 0 529 864
Europe 0 713 347
Japan 09-130769 (Abstract only)

These documents were cited during prosecution of a European patent application corresponding to the above U.S. application. A copy of the European Search Report dated January 22, 2004 is enclosed.

Inasmuch as this application has not yet received a first Office Action on the merits, it is believed that this Information Disclosure Statement is timely. See 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)(3). Accordingly, the Examiner is urged to study this information in its entirety and to form an independent determination of the materiality of the information to the claimed invention. Additionally, the Examiner is requested to indicate that this information has been considered by initialing the appropriate portion of the Form PTO-1449 and returning the initialed form to Applicant with the next communication.

Applicant's undersigned attorney may be reached in our Costa Mesa, California office at (714) 540-8700. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below-listed address.

Respectfully submitted,


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